

side." The genocidal campaign unleashed by Milosevic has included the rape of tens of thousands of women, the destruction of thousands of mosques and Catholic churches, and the forcible expulsion of hundreds of thousands.

Mr. Speaker, the Bosnian Serb political and military leaders, Karadzic and Mladic, wouldn't dare step foot on United States soil following their indictment as war criminals by the U.N. War Crimes Tribunal in the Hague, earlier this year. There is a cruel irony in the fact that, with his lieutenants largely out of the picture, Milosevic has returned to center stage as the perceived linchpin to peace in the Balkans following a 4-year war of armed aggression and genocide which he, himself, set in motion.

In a speech launching a week-long commemoration at the University of Connecticut of the 50th anniversary of the Nuremberg trials, President Clinton solemnly declared "there must be peace of justice to prevail, but there must be justice when peace prevails." Apparently, the Clinton administration is prepared to put justice aside in their quest for peace in Bosnia which it believes hinges on Milosevic.

Mr. Speaker, I would submit that peace and justice can and should be pursued simultaneously. I agreed with President Clinton when he said, "By successfully prosecuting war criminals in the former Yugoslavia * * * we send a strong signal for those who would use the cover of war to commit terrible atrocities, that they cannot escape the consequences of such actions." But what signal is the Clinton administration sending by welcoming Milosevic to the United States?

Even those who accept Milosevic's participation in the current peace talks—for whatever reason—must acknowledge that the Serbian leader will garner a degree of credibility and prestige by being allowed to enter the United States. Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, by willingly admitting Milosevic, the Clinton administration calls into question its determination to see all war criminals, regardless of rank, brought to justice.

Mr. Speaker, the arrival of Slobodan Milosevic in the United States is repugnant to American principles and is an affront to the memory of the tens of thousands of innocent victims of the Balkan war.

For the RECORD, Mr. Speaker, I wish also to include a disturbing article which was published in the Christian Science Monitor on October 24, 1995.

[From the Christian Science Monitor, Oct. 24, 1995]

SERBIA HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR MASSACRE OF BOSNIANS

(By David Rohde)

Officers from Serbia participated in the attack on the UN-declared "safe area" of Srebrenica, according to credible eyewitness accounts obtained by the Monitor. And senior Western diplomats and UN officials say Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic is responsible for the attack and the subsequent executions of thousands of Muslim civilians.

Muslim witnesses say that an officer from Serbia was directing the roundup of Muslim prisoners in the village of Konjevic Polje, and that a Serb officer captured by Muslim forces was following orders issued from the Serbian capital, Belgrade.

"The Serb officer said they were under orders from Belgrade not to allow any men to escape from Srebrenica," says Bosnian soldier Dzamal Malvic.

"All Muslim men were to be captured or killed," said Mr. Malovic, one of three

Bosnian soldiers who say they spoke to and looked at identify papers of the captured Serbian captain.

In a separate interview, a Muslim officer confirmed that the Serbian officer had been captured. The Serbian officer's whereabouts are unknown, and he may have been killed later by Muslim forces.

Western diplomats have long suspected that the Bosnian Serb attack on Srebrenica in mid-July was approved by Belgrade, but the government of President Slobodan Milosevic has vehemently denied it.

Mr. Milosevic's involvement would be an embarrassment for the Clinton administration, eager to portray Milosevic—who will be attending peace talks in Ohio next week—as a peacemaker in the Balkans, not a war criminal.

"Whether by commission or omission, [Milosevic] is responsible, no question," says a senior UN military official based in Zagreb, Croatia. "He had plenty of sources on the ground there. He had to know what was happening, and either approved of it or did nothing to stop it."

A senior Western diplomat in Zagreb also says Milosevic is responsible for what is quickly emerging as one of the darkest hours of Bosnia's 3½ year conflict.

"I have no doubt he directly approved or tacitly approved of the taking of Srebrenica," the diplomat says. "Whether Milosenic knew [about the executions] or not, he knows what kind of man [Bosnian Serb Army commander Gen. Ratko] Mladic is and how he operates."

REPORTS OF MASS EXECUTIONS

Over 2,000 Muslim men were executed by Bosnian Serb forces following the fall of Srebrenica, according to nine survivors interviewed by the Monitor last month.

War-crimes investigators now have evidence that as many as 3,000 to 4,000 men were executed by the Bosnian Serbs, according to a senior UN official close to the investigation. "Wait until everything comes out," he says. "Then, people will understand how big this is."

The UN official close to the International War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague said mass graves ring the area around Srebrenica, and confirmed the existence of a new set of United States spy photos showing a new group of apparent mass graves near the village of Karakaj, as reported by the Boston Globe on Oct. 3.

The photos confirm the accounts of five men interviewed by the Monitor who say over 2,000 Muslim prisoners were executed near the town of Karakaj on July 18. The photos may be the basis for new indictments against General Mladic expected to be issued by the Tribunal.

Bosnian Serb officials have said that mass graves in the village of Nova Kasaba captured in US spy photos and visited by the Monitor in August contain the bodies of Muslim soldiers who were killed in combat and not executed.

But the Karakaj site is too far from the route that Muslim men would have followed to escape from Srebrenica, according to the UN official.

Mevludin Oric, a survivor of the Karakaj execution, said in an interview that one of the officers directing the roundup of prisoners in Konjevic Polje was a 40- to 45-year-old officer from Serbia. Mr. Oric is considered by war-crimes investigators to be one of their most credible witnesses. The Serbian officer was not present at the later execution, Oric added.

Who gave the order to execute thousands of prisoners remains unknown.

But evidence of Milosevic's involvement in Srebrenica has been mounting for months,

and it is not known if Mladic would execute such a large number of men without at least the tacit approval of Serbian leaders in Belgrade.

Mladic, who eyewitnesses interviewed by the Monitor said was at Karakaj and three other executions sites during or just before executions began, had been visiting Belgrade regularly for weeks prior to the attack.

Dutch peacekeepers reported seeing members of paramilitary groups from Serbia, and Muslims say they saw Belgrade-based paramilitary leader Zeljko "Arkan" Raznjatovic in Srebrenica.

The Washington Post reported seeing Muslim soldiers driving a jeep with Yugoslav Army license plates on July 17. The Muslims said they had captured the jeep from forces involved in the attack on Srebrenica.

New York Newsday reported on Aug. 12 that Western intelligence officials captured radio intercepts of Yugoslav Army chief Gen. Momcilo Perisic, directing Mladic on how to attack Srebrenica during the offensive.

SERB DENIALS

Yugoslav officials have strenuously denied the accounts, but the Yugoslav Army and Arkan are believed to be tightly controlled by Milosevic, who holds an iron grip over Serbia's military.

Despite the growing evidence, Srebrenica survivors remain skeptical that Milosevic—whom the Clinton administration is depending on to force the Bosnian Serbs to agree to a peace deal—will be tied to or punished for Europe's worst massacre since World War II.

"It all depends on the politicians," Malovic says. "They could punish them, or reward them, for doing this."

THE 7-YEAR BALANCED BUDGET RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2491) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 105 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1996:

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Chairman, I rise on behalf of the American family, America's children, and restoring the American dream and will support budget reconciliation which will bring our burgeoning budget deficit into balance by the year 2002 and provide needed family tax relief. This is the right thing to do.

Consider this. According to the Joint Committee on Taxation, a child born today will have to pay \$187,000 in his or her lifetime in interest on the national debt. That money won't be spent on education, nutrition, medical research, national defense, or roads. Rather, our children will be forced to pay for the present generation's profligacy. That is unfair; it is unwise; and it offends traditional notions of justice.

For all the things the 104th Congress will do, this is the most important. We are at a historic crossroads, and I will choose the path of lower interest rates, lower taxes, and job creation, thereby preserving America's greatness for present and future generations. It is time to end the gluttonous consumption of America's precious and scarce resources. We can ill afford the relentless spending and borrowing

binge of the past which mortgages the future of America's most precious resource—her young people—because we are unwilling to exercise restraint needed to forego immediate gratification.

We have a solemn duty to provide a better world for future generations. Will Allen Dromgoole, in his poem "The Bridge Builder," describes an old man's effort to cross a river flowing through a vast, deep, and wide chasm. Even though the old man never had to repeat the treacherous journey, he built a bridge over the river. A fellow traveler asked the old man why he was wasting his strength building a bridge he would never use. The builder lifted his old gray head and responded:

There followeth after me today
A youth, whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm, that has been naught to me,
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building the bridge for him.

Mr. Chairman, I implore all Members to be like the selfless bridge builder and vote for this legislation which will build a bridge to a better world for those who follow.

THE 7 YEAR BALANCED BUDGET RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2491) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 105 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1996:

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Chairman, I come to the well today to speak in favor of the Republican plan to allow seniors to increase their earnings without being penalized. Senior citizens made this country strong with their long and arduous labors year in and year out. They taught me and my generation how to profit from a strong work ethic. Yet, we need to stop punishing them for their desire to remain active. We need to recognize that many seniors want to work longer. We need to reward those who continue to work or operate a business. We can no longer force them to choose between an active and productive life and Social Security benefits.

Under current law, seniors between the ages of 65 and 69 lose \$1 in benefits for every dollar they earn over \$11,160. This earnings test amounts to an additional 33 percent marginal tax rate. This marginal rate is on top of the taxes they already pay on their earnings. This draconian test punishes seniors who want to work beyond the age of 64.

It is unconscionable that in times of shrinking fiscal resources at the Federal level, that we would punish seniors who seek to remain financially independent. With so severe an earnings limit we essentially force them to become more reliant on Government spending and congressional action. Such an unhealthy reliance undermines the self esteem of seniors and makes the governing role of Congress more difficult.

Our proposal today, would raise the earning potential of seniors to \$30,000 over 5 years

and more immediately they can earn \$15,000 beginning on January 1, 1996. This change goes a long way to providing equity to the hard working seniors of this great country and I am proud to be associated with it.

THE 7 YEAR BALANCED BUDGET RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. RONALD D. COLEMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2491) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 105 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1996:

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. Chairman, Republicans have not only targeted the sick, disabled, elderly, and women in this Congress, but now they are targeting children. Children do not have a voice in the legislature, but trust us to protect their interests. This Congress has betrayed that trust by waging an all-out war on children in the budget.

The battle has been waged on a number of different fronts: health care, disabled assistance, education, nutrition, and social safety nets.

In Texas, Medicaid coverage for as many as 206,641 children will be eliminated under Republican proposals by 2002. Currently, 20 percent of all children in Texas rely on Medicaid for their basic health needs. Medicaid pays for immunizations, regular checkups, and intensive care for about 1,407,000 children in Texas.

There are 148,287 El Pasoans who are eligible for Medicaid. Of those eligible, approximately 57,000 are children between the ages of 1 and 14.

The Republican budget also repeals the Vaccines for Children Program, putting at risk at least \$1.5 billion over 7 years that would otherwise provide immunizations for children in Texas and across the Nation. In the last few years, El Paso has been the site of several outbreaks of serious diseases such as tuberculosis and hepatitis. Without vaccines for contagious diseases, the health of the border region would be in great danger.

Children with disabilities are at risk as well. The Republican welfare plan denies as many as 54 percent of all disabled children in Texas SSI cash benefits in 2002.

Texas education programs are vitally important to sustain a good economy, and my Republican colleagues are set on destroying our educational system. In Texas, Head Start would be denied to 12,512 children in 2002 under the Republican budget. The cuts would also deny title I funding to 100,100 children in Texas.

Not only are we reducing funds in assisting education, but we are reducing the ability of administrators to keep their schools safe. The Republican budget cuts funding to the Safe and Drug Free Schools Program which supplies funding to 1,043 out of 1,053 school districts in Texas who use the money to keep crime, violence, and drugs away from the children in their schools.

Not only does the budget limit the opportunities students have, but it limits the opportuni-

ties they will have outside of school when they try to enter the work force. The budget will deny approximately 3,000 young people in Texas the opportunity to serve their community through AmeriCorps. And over 7 years, the Republican budget eliminates summer jobs for 297,437 youths in Texas.

In this family friendly Congress Republicans are picking and choosing what type of families they want to help. For example, the Republican welfare bill cuts foster care and adoption for vulnerable Texas children by \$359.5 million over 7 years and eliminates cash assistance for 5,260 children in Texas simply because they were born to unmarried mothers under 18. Additionally, assistance would be cut to 222,000 children in Texas simply because their paternity has not been established.

The effort to balance the budget should not include an unnecessary and harsh attack on children and their interests. They are the future of this country and we must treat them as assets, not liabilities.

THE 7 YEAR BALANCED BUDGET RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2491) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 105 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1996:

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Chairman, I oppose this heinous attempt by the Republican majority to balance the budget at the expense of the Nation's elderly. This hysteria surrounding the mandate to balance the budget in 7 years is nothing short of a hoax being perpetrated on the American people to conceal the true Republican agenda. If the Republicans were so interested in balancing the Federal budget, would they be proposing a royalty holiday for major oil producers, many of whom are not even American companies? If the Republicans were truly interested in balancing the Federal budget, would they be proposing the elimination of the guaranteed minimum tax on corporations? Does it make sense to propose a \$242 billion tax cut if your objective is to balance the budget? How many of the American people know that the debate over balancing the budget is being conducted in an environment where half the budget isn't even on the table?

The result, Mr. Chairman, is that we have a program to revise Medicare which, like the entire Republican program, is regressive in the extreme. It gives special breaks to doctors; it increases premiums for people who can least afford it; it distorts medical financing systems, particularly of hospitals that serve the poor; it sets up dynamics that could lead to the concentration of the poorest and least healthy people in the most inadequate coverage. The Republicans have maintained that the premiums of the poorest elderly will continue to be paid, but this is just another deception. The very program which is responsible for paying these premiums is being eliminated under the Republican Medicaid reform package.